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Applause, applause, applause. Very gratifying indeed. Included herewith is a copy of a poster that Pete Smith made up for the occasion. I was very pleased to see it on one of the doors to the Auditorium. I tried my best to get JVB involved in the talking in the first hour of the "lecture"; he read a list of the 19 stations on the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company's Gravity Railroad. He must learn to speak up when he is publicly speaking. He seems to speak less loudly when speaking to a group than he does when he is speaking to one or two individuals. In time, of course, he will learn. After the lecture, Pete Smith and Tomaine and JVB and I said near the refreshment table and chatted. I was feeling wonderful and was excited by the evening. Pete Smith was very pleased with the lecture and the turn out. Sister Cephas Ryan told me that anytime that the CHS wanted to use the Auditorium that we could. That is wonderful. We will probably use it for a Town Meeting in the near future. Tomaine and I agreed that we should hold another "lecture" in the North High Rise in town. This next "lecture" could be on the O&W and the Laurel Line (Tomaine knows Ed Miller and will ask him to speak). The idea of holding a "lecture" in the North High Rise was suggested by Tom Ruddy, I believe. JVB and I dropped off the projector and slides and film at the Shiflers and told them of the great success of the evening. I then drove JVB home. I was exhausted and went home and did some preliminary sorting through of papers and went to bed.

February 18, 1983: Friday

The countdown begins. Tomaine and I worked from 10 A.M. to about 10 P.M.; final coat of white latex enamel on the window mouldings (south window on Main and both on 6th Avenue) and baseboards and touchup paint the walls and wash the windows. RTP put up the baseboard on the west wall in the afternoon on 02-13-1983, after he finished plowing out the Hendrick lot. On that Sunday afternoon I drove into town and found him and Laura in the Hendrick parking lot and asked if he could put back the south window on Main and the west window on 6th and he said yes. We didn't re-sash those two, however, because there will be time for that this summer. On the 11th, RTP went to K-Line and bought supplies so that we would have the wherewithal to finish the room: he bought the west baseboard and more moulding and that was very nice of him. He has been so extraordinary throughout the entire project. I couldn't have done it without him. It seems odd that at the moment I can not recall any of the particulars of the 18th. Jane Dailey, I see from my notes, was on the scene, but I don't recall the day in particular. All I know is that we worked like madmen getting the room ready. At 10 P.M. that night I know we sat in the virtually completed room and reveled in the beauty of it all. At one point on Friday I went over to the florist branch of Ros-Al and ordered some tulips from them. They called their Forest City store and 10 yellow tulips and 10 red/white tulips were available for the occasion, all for \$12.00. On Saturday in the afternoon I asked HLRP if she would mind picking up the tulips and taking them home and putting them in the refrigerator. She was delighted to be of

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help and insisted on paying for the tulips herself. "This will be my contribution to the opening" said she. As it turns out HLRP and WSP made contributions to the effort all along the way. Like RTP, they were absolutely wonderful throughout the entire restoration of 301 effort. Saturday was one of those extraordinary days when everything comes together. There was high-velocity work in 301 and in CCH from about 10 A.M. to 11 P.M. Russell and I were there all of the time. RTP put in the lock in the door and repaired the door. We purchased a new cylinder at Kameen's and RTP put that in. On Friday, it occurs to me now, JVB was at 301. He removed the presswood covering from the windows on the landing between 2 and 3 in CCH. One of the windows is cracked and so we put the covering back on it. The other we "exposed" and I washed it. When I arrived at 301 on Friday, I forgot to mention, there were women's purses and coats in 301. Jean Colville and Mrs. Robert DeGrazia and Mrs. Delfino were on the scene. Jean was showing them around the third floor. We had a drapery session when they emerged. Mrs. DeGrazia will sew the drapes. Ann has been relieved of that duty. She has never sewn drapes before and was somewhat apprehensive about it and so it is good that Jean has secured Mrs. DeGrazia to do it. Ann is delighted, I'm sure. Beginning on Friday morning when I arrived at 301 there was very much a "the show will go on" atmosphere in 301. It was a grand feeling. As Tomaine and I worked on Friday, we had a steady stream of visitors all day long. Pete Judge, Jay McDonald, Mary Milligan and her assistant, Joe Masco. On Friday in the afternoon JVB went down to see the city workers and asked if there was some way to get rid of the creche on the landing. Excellent. That is the kind of take charge person that I love to be around. Shortly thereafter the creche was being dis-assembled by Walter Turonis and someone else and before long it was in the backstairs section of the third floor. Excellent. I must mention to John how pleased I was with his having taken charge in that instance. Joe Masco was impressed, said he, with what we have done in 301. I asked if the vacuum cleaner from the city was available for us to use and Masco made it available. Back to Saturday or should I say onward to Saturday. I spent a good portion of the day cleaning the floor--on my hands and knees. Spic and Span and water and brush and paint scraper in hand. It was a very tedious process and one that Tomaine did not want to get involved in. He fought it all the way and finally said that he had to leave to pick up the photographs for the show. He disappeared. Jean Colville spent much of the day dusting the railing on the landing and washing the table in 301. HLRP showed up and volunteered to help clean. I was overwhelmed. She followed my floor scrubbing/scrapping with a mop and that was very, very helpful. All the while that the floor cleaning was going on, RTP was fixing the door. WSP showed up and had a look at the situation. He re-appeared an hour or two later and said that he would provide a new floor for the room. Tile, carpet or whatever. I thanked him and said that we would not have time to do anything about a new floor at the moment and that we would have to do that later. In the meantime, we had to continue to clean the floor. The question of whether or not to wax the floor came up. In the early afternoon, Roy Crocker appeared with the new window shades and installed them. I had the feeling I was participating in some